

Claims

1. Method for automatically generating an electronic menu including a plurality of menu pages, wherein each menu page contains selectable menu items with associated commands to be executed upon activation of the respective menu item, **characterized in**
  - associating a page number with each menu page;
  - a first menu page containing at least one menu item with an associated command and associated data, wherein the command associated with the menu item comprises switching to another menu page;
  - defining a range of page numbers based upon said data associated with said command;
  - detecting the page numbers of the available menu pages; and
  - selecting a second menu page upon activation of said menu item for switching to another menu page, wherein the second menu page has the first or last page number from among the available menu pages within the defined range of menu pages.
2. Method according to claim 1, wherein defining a range of page numbers is also based upon the page number of said first menu page.
3. Method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the first and second menu pages are retrieved from different storage media.
4. Method according to any of claims 1-3, wherein detecting of the page numbers of the available menu pages includes detecting if the corresponding AV

content selectable from said menu page is also available.

5. Method according to any of the previous claims,  
wherein the range of page numbers is limited by said data associated with said command contained on the first menu page and by the page number of said first menu page, and wherein the lowest page number from among the available menu pages within the defined 10 range is selected if the page number of the first menu page is the lower limit of the range.

15 6. Method according to any of the previous claims, wherein a menu page is stored in a separate file, or selectable portion of a file, and the page number is determined by the name of the file, or the name of the file and the selectable portion within the file, in which it is stored.

20 7. Method according to any of the previous claims, wherein the page number associated with the first or second menu page depends on user specific settings.

25 8. An apparatus for automatically generating an electronic menu including a plurality of menu pages, wherein each menu page contains selectable menu items with associated commands to be executed upon activation of the respective menu item, **characterized in** that the apparatus has  
30 - means for detecting the current menu page number;  
- means for retrieving from at least two different storage media menu related data and other data being selectable through the menu;

- means for detecting from a request for displaying another menu page the allowed range of page numbers of the next menu page to be displayed;
- means for detecting which of the available menu pages has the next higher or lower number; and
- means for selecting said menu page.

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9. Apparatus according to claim 8, wherein detecting the allowed range of page numbers of the next menu page to be displayed comprises comparing a received number with the current menu page number, wherein the received number is defined within said request.

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10. Optical storage medium for storing audio-visual content and menu data for a multi-page menu, wherein menu pages have page numbers, and wherein at least a first menu page contains a command for selecting a second menu page, **characterized in** that

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- the command for selecting a second menu page specifies a range of two or more menu pages to select, and a predefined rule specifies which menu page of the range of menu pages is selected next; and
- for at least one page number within said range no relating menu page is stored on the optical storage medium.

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